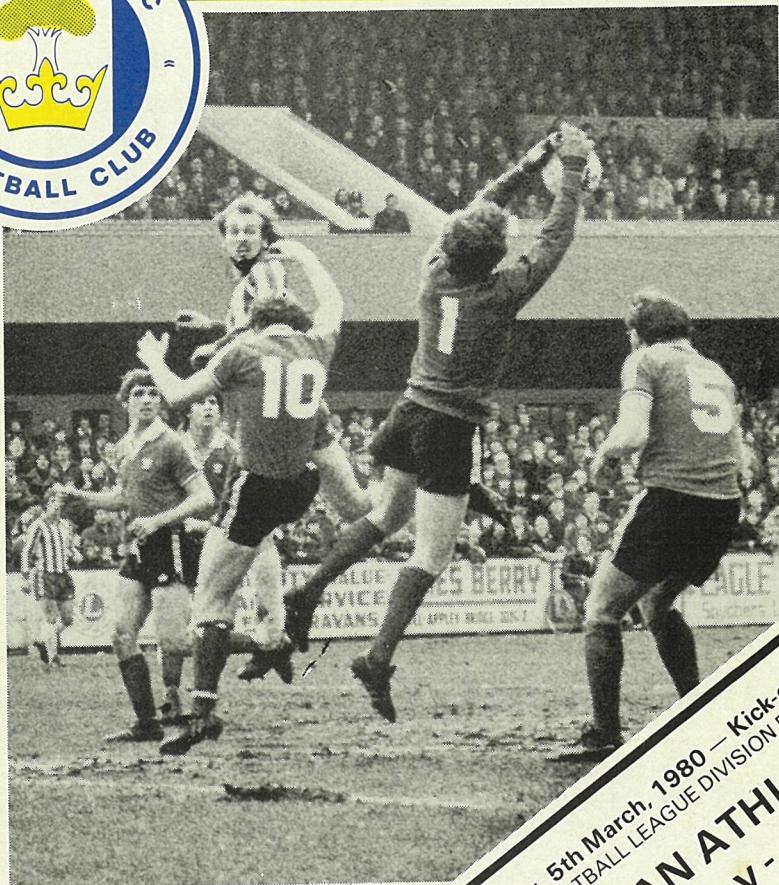


WIGAN ATHLETIC



Official Programme

20p

Wednesday, 5th March, 1980 — Kick-off 7.30 p.m.
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR
WIGAN ATHLETIC
- v -
ALDERSHOT

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Club Directory

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REGISTERED OFFICE:
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Telephone Wigan 44433.

CHAIRMAN:
Mr. A.O. Horrocks.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:
Mr. A. Muir.

DIRECTORS:
Messrs. J.H. Farrimond,
A. Eckersley, G.D. Gorner,
B. Connolly.

TEAM MANAGER:
Mr. I.M. McNeill.

COMMERCIAL MANAGER:
Mr. J.T. Sudworth.

HON. MEDICAL OFFICERS:
Dr. G. Menon, Dr. S.K. Ahuja,
and Dr. J. Coffey.

Match Ball Donors

The Wigan Athletic Football Club wishes to thank all those who have donated match balls. Any individual or organisation wishing to join the scheme is asked to contact the Commercial Manager, Springfield Park, Wigan. (Telephone: Wigan 43067)

Our front page pic this issue features skipper Colin Methven putting the Hereford defence under pressure. (Photograph by courtesy of the Evening Post and Chronicle).

Personally Speaking

by Ian McNeill



Good Evening All.
A VERY warm welcome to Tom McNearney and his Aldershot side. For the third year running the "Shots" have been battling away in the promotion stakes and tonight's game is very vital for both sides. We are both on the fringe and it is imperative to

keep momentum going. So you can be sure tonights' match will be a real battle.

MAURICE WHITTLE

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Maurice back to Springfield Park, and I trust his second stay gives the fans as much enjoyment as his first season with us.

I am sincerely hoping his clearance has come through from the U.S.A. by this time. It is certainly one difficult job to get anything done quickly with regard to American clubs. If I remember rightly we had the same problem when we signed Derek Brownbill last season. However, I am sure it will be worth the wait once we eventually get him signed.

LINCOLN

Last Friday night's game at Lincoln was not the best of nights for us. In fact, it was one of the few occasions when I could honestly say after the game that we were most definitely second best. However, we realised we were severely weakened by our suspensions etc., so I am hopeful we will get right back on song tonight.

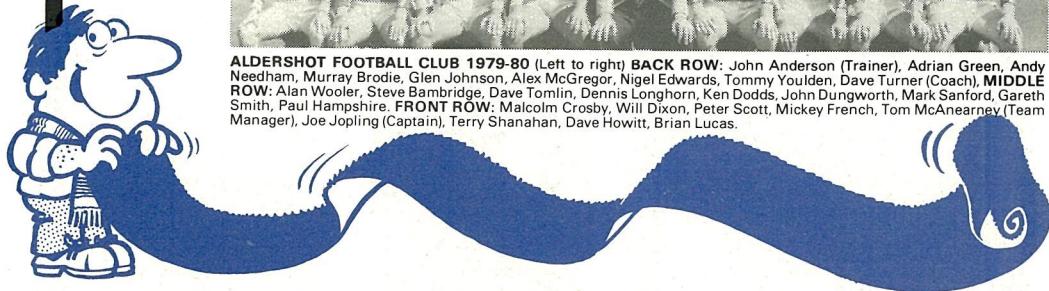
Enjoy tonights game.

Ian McNeill

WELCOME TO



ALDERSHOT FOOTBALL CLUB 1979-80 (Left to right) BACK ROW: John Anderson (Trainer), Adrian Green, Andy Needham, Murray Brodie, Glen Johnson, Alex McGregor, Nigel Edwards, Tommy Youlden, Dave Turner (Coach), MIDDLE ROW: Alan Wooler, Steve Bambridge, Dave Tomlin, Dennis Longhorn, Ken Dodds, John Dungworth, Mark Sanford, Gareth Smith, Paul Hampshire. FRONT ROW: Malcolm Crosby, Will Dixon, Peter Scott, Mickey French, Tom McNearney (Team Manager), Joe Jopling (Captain), Terry Shanahan, Dave Howitt, Brian Lucas.



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ALDERSHOT FOOTBALL CLUB

IT IS A real pleasure to have as visitors tonight the directors, staff, players and supporters of the Aldershot Football Club. Always enterprising, both on and off the field of play, the "Shots" are without doubt one of the major attractions of our "home" fixture list, and we look forward with relish to a lively sporting encounter between two sides committed to attacking football and entertainment.

Last season, at Springfield Park, in a game which produced end-to-end play, goalmouth incidents in plenty and five goals to crown both team's efforts, Wigan Athletic gained the day. In late April, at the High Street Ground, Aldershot turned the tables, winning by the only goal in a tense, end-of-season game. Despite the efforts of Tom McAnearney and Ian McNeill, Aldershot and Wigan Athletic just missed out on promotion, finishing respectively in fifth and sixth positions in the final 1978-1979 Division Four League Table. For Aldershot it was the second year in succession that the side had fallen just short of elevation to Division Three. Both the "Shots" and Wigan are again handily placed for the final run-in, but both now need a succession of good results if another twelve months of life in the Fourth Division is to be avoided.

From 1932 to 1958, Aldershot retained their Third Division status before being relegated to a lengthy spell in the Fourth Division between 1958 and 1973. Promotion back to the Third

Division was achieved in 1973 but after three seasons, the High Street Club made the return trip to the Fourth Division in 1976, and, despite near misses, have stayed there ever since. Although the club has twice reached the Fifth Round of the F.A. Cup, it has yet to make progress beyond the Second Round of the Football League Cup. The record attendance registered at the compact High Street Ground was for the visit of Carlisle United in our F.A. Cup Fourth Round Replay in January 1970. Record receipts of £11,850 were taken for a Fifth Round F.A. Cup game against Shrewsbury Town in February 1979.

Like Wigan Athletic, Aldershot has this season been involved in a record-breaking outgoing transfer deal, losing the services of top goalscorer John Dungworth, but gaining a substantial fee as recompense. It is also worth noting that since the end of the Second World War, the Aldershot Football Club has only had seven managers, and in current manager Tom McAnearney the "Shots" have a highly respected and knowledgeable supremo. It can only be a short matter of time, before he leads his club into the Third Division of the Football League.

Welcome then to our colleagues and friends from Aldershot. We trust we shall tonight witness a wonderful game of football, but, whatever the result, we wish you a safe return journey home, and look forward to meeting you again, at Aldershot, early in May.

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Next Jackpot Draw Dates

Lottery No. 19 — 8th March, 1980

Lottery No. 20 — 22nd March, 1980

Lottery No. 21 — 5th April, 1980

Lottery No. 22 — 19th April, 1980

Lottery No. 23 — 3rd May, 1980

Lottery No. 24 — 17th May, 1980

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Lancashire League Scene

by Fred Eyre

RECENT fixtures at Everton were something like a day trip to the seaside. It was one of the rare occasions when both the reserve team and the youth team had a fixture on the same day at the same place. It was decided that we would all share the same coach and it gave all twenty-six players a good opportunity to get to know each other better, because every seat was taken and it was nearly standing room only.

It turned out to be a good day all round because, even though the Youth Team lost 0 - 1 they played extremely well and the Reserve Team had a convincing 2 - 1 win.

John Wilkie scored again, his second in two games since returning after his ankle operation and Lawrence Iro, a young winger signed the day before from Liverpool, scored the winner ten

minutes from the end.

One of the more pleasing aspects was that it was decided at this stage of the season to give a run in the higher grade to one or two of the players who have done so well in David Crompton's Youth Team to see how they would fare. Kenny Freeman and Steve Silcock were brought in and acquitted themselves admirably, looking completely at home in their new surroundings. The players who stepped down to give these lads their chance will be back next week, but the exercise was a complete success because we now know that we have added two more players to our already healthy-looking squad, both Kenny and Steve are definitely up to the required standard and will be given more chances in the near future.

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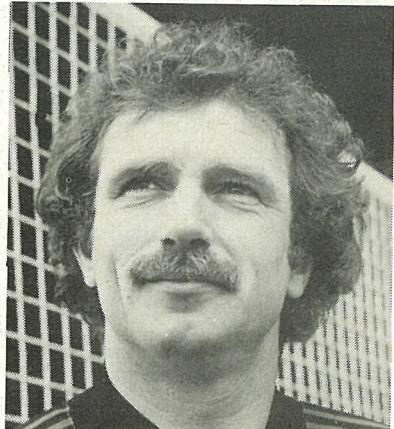
I.A.T.A. Telephone: WIGAN 41236 (5 lines)



Player Profile



Photograph courtesy of "The Wigan Observer"



MAURICE WHITTLE

(Defender)

MAURICE WHITTLE's return to Wigan Athletic for a second tour of duty is yet another stage in his recently nomadic soccer life-style which has shuttled him backwards and forwards between the heart of Lancashire and the glittering lights of the United States of America.

After receiving his early education at the local St. Thomas's and All Saints' C.E. Schools, Maurice, after captaining school and Wigan Schools' Association teams, moved to Blackburn Rovers as an apprentice professional. Eventually signing full professional forms, the locally-based Whittle found it difficult to progress at Ewood Park, and, after making five league appearances, made the comparatively short trip to Boundary Park, Oldham, where his career really took off. Making over three hundred league appearances and scoring 39 goals, Maurice became a major attraction, with his positive attacking turns and powerful left-foot shooting earning the laudits of the Oldham spectators. A Third Division Championship Medal was earned in 1973-1974, but far away in America interest was being revitalised in Association Football and it was not long before the invitation came to Maurice to sample a life-style which was as far removed from tripe and

black puddings, as are peanut butter and flap-jacks from our own domestic scene. With his career at Oldham taking a downwards spiral, the adventurer willingly grasped an opportunity which was too good to pass over.

Joining Fort Lauderdale Strikers, with whom he won an Eastern Division Championship Honour, Whittle came face to face on the field of play with the great international stars of the Soccer World, among them the legendary Pele, of whom Maurice still speaks with the greatest respect and admiration.

With English attitudes hardening to the threat from the U.S.A., Maurice's contract with Oldham Athletic was cancelled in October 1977, and for a three month period he played a major part in the transformation of Wigan Athletic from an ambitious non-league club to undisputed challengers for Football League status. Cup victories over York City and Sheffield Wednesday paved the way for the visit to Birmingham City, where in spite of defeat Wigan Athletic were to make many friends who would assist them in their Football League quest.

Maurice eventually left Wigan Athletic for his second stint at Fort Lauderdale, but in leaving, left behind memories which many local people will cherish for a long, long time. For two years since then, Maurice has served both his American club, and former Football League clubs Southport and Barrow, loyally and effectively. Suddenly he finds himself thrust back into the local scene with an almost legendary reputation to maintain and a sports business in Hindley to mastermind.

Maurice, his wife Sandra, and their children Kerry, Neil and Shaun are delighted to be back home again, and we are sure every Wigan supporter will agree with our sentiments when we write "Welcome home, Maurice; thanks for your past efforts, and all the best for the future!"

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ALL THE BE

Photograph by courtesy of the Wigan Observer.



ABOVE:
Joe Hinnigan puts the Torquay
defence under pressure.

TOP RIGHT:
Joe Hinnigan powering in a header
against Darlington.

BOT
Joe
Park

Springfield Spotlight

EST BIG JOE



TOM RIGHT:
Hinnigan in action at Goodison



Photograph by courtesy of the Wigan Observer.



Photograph courtesy of the Evening Post & Chronicle.

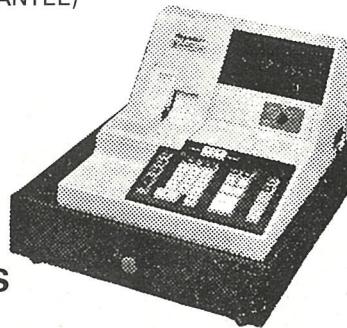
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Down Memory Lane

by Harold Ashurst

ALL BEING WELL, tonight's home debut of former Oldham Athletic full-back Maurice Whittle highlights one of those strange coincidences in that thirty-four years ago to the day Latics played Oldham Athletic in a Cheshire League fixture.

The Boundary Park pitch was in a terrible condition and according to the Wigan Observer: "it would not have been surprising if the referee had declared the ground unfit", (they had pitch problems then too it seems). Anyway, the match went ahead despite a snowbound pitch but Latics must have wished it had not.

Latics never really got into the game, although as the reporter at the time pointed out: "In these circumstances criticism of individuals is unfair, none of the players was able to give anything like his best."

Nevertheless, Oldham Athletic adapted to the conditions far better than Wigan and were soon in control of the match. Oldham went in front after only three

minutes when Docherty scored a simple goal from close in and even at that early stage Latics never looked like getting back on terms. Oldham scored again through Crooks after 20 minutes and although the scoreline stayed that way until the late stages of game, Crooks popped up again to score his second goal a few minutes from the end.

A main feature of Oldham's play that day was the use of two wingers down the parts of the pitch that were free from snow, and they were helped in their cause by a Wigan defence that had a couple of new members, since the club was still rebuilding its team after the war years.

Wigan's team was: Littler, Green, Allen, Cunliffe, Hanna, Haigh, Painter, Eastham, Thomas, Roberts, Taylor, while the following lined up for Oldham; Harris, Clough, Eaves, Hobson, Selwood, Hayes, Wagstaffe, Kershaw, Hazelhurst, Crooks, Docherty. (The referee was Mr. E. Chew from Prescot).

LATICS AWAY

At Tranmere Rovers, Monday, 25th February, 1980 — Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Use Birkenhead Tunnel, follow signs for Heswall, dropping down into Borough Road and continue through lights into Prenton Road for Tranmere Rovers F.C.

Facts and Figures

Home fixtures in capitals.
Wigan scores first.

Player scoring in bold.
† Player substituted.

2 Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.
* In result column indicates opponents own goal.

DATE	Fixture	F	A	ATT.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug 11	Stockport FLC1	1	-2	6,004	R Ward	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Brownbill	Purdey	Urquhart
Aug 15	STOCKPORT FLC1	0	-0	7,591	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Brownbill	Purdey	Moore
Aug 18	Darlington	2	-2	2,063	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan*	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Purdey	Davids
Aug 22	HUDDERSFIELD	1	-2	6,927	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Purdey	Brownbill
Aug 25	Stockport County	2	-1	3,837	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore*	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Heughton*	Moore	Purdey	N Ward
Sep 1	PORTSMOUTH	1	-2	8,198	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	'N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore*	Purdey	Urquhart
Sep 8	Bournemouth	2	-1	4,390	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Hart	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Purdey	Brownbill*
Sep 15	YORK CITY	2	-5	5,990	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan*	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Purdey	Urquhart*
Sep 19	HARTELEPOOL	2	-1	4,877	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Urquhart
Sep 22	Hereford United	1	-2	3,891	Shyne	Gore	Hinnigan	Purdey	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright*	Brownbill	Moore*	Houghton	Crompton
Sep 29	BRADFORD CITY	4	-1	8,009	Shyne	Gore*	Hinnigan*	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Crompton
Oct 6	TORQUAY UNITED	0	-3	6,541	Shyne	Gore	Hinnigan	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Methven
Oct 9	Huddersfield Town	0	-4	7,871	Brown	Gore	Hinnigan	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Methven
Oct 13	Doncaster Rovers	1	-3	4,169	Brown	Macivor*	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Purdey	Urquhart
Oct 20	LINCOLN CITY	2	-1	5,454	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Purdey	Urquhart*
Oct 24	ROCHDALE	1	-1	5,036	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Buckley
Oct 27	Newport County	2	-3	4,910	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven*	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore*	Houghton	Buckley
Nov 3	DARLINGTON	4*	-1	5,001	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan*	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Brownbill
Nov 6	Rochdale	2	-0	2,936	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Crompton
Nov 17	SCUNTHORPE	4	-1	4,618	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan*	Gore*	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Urquhart
Nov 24	Blackpool P.A.C.1	1	-1	11,277	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven*	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn	Urquhart	Moore
Nov 28	BLACKPOOL FA C1R	2	-0	14,589	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore*	Methven	Davids	Corrigan*	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn	Urquhart	Moore
Dec 1	NORTHAMPTON	0	-0	6,158	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Moore	Urquhart	A Quinn
Dec 8	Walsall	1	-1	5,261	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Buckley	A Quinn*	Urquhart	Smart
Dec 21	CREWE	2	-0	4,316	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore*	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Buckley	A Quinn	Urquhart	Buckley
Dec 26	Peterborough	2	-1	3,312	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn	Urquhart	Brownbill
Dec 29	STOCKPORT	3	-1	6,847	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Moore	Urquhart	Moore	Brownbill
Jan 5	Northwich V FAC2	2	-2	5,249	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan*	Gore*	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn	Urquhart	Brownbill
Jan 7	NORTHWICH V FAC2R	1	-0	11,298	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Quinn	Urquhart	Brownbill*
Jan 12	Portsmouth	1	-1	15,625	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Quinn	Urquhart	Houghton*
Jan 14	Chelsea FAC3	1	-0	22,300	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore*	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Urquhart	Quinn	Quinn
Jan 26	Everton FAC4	0	-3	51,863	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan*	Wright	Houghton*	Brownbill	Urquhart	Quinn
Feb 2	York City	2	-1	2,400	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Urquhart	Quinn	Quinn
Feb 6	BOURNEMOUTH	2	-1	5,904	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Brownbill	Urquhart	Quinn
Feb 9	HEREFORD UNITED	1	-1	6,481	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan*	Wright	Houghton	Brownbill	Urquhart	Quinn
Feb 16	Bradford City	1	-2	6,127	Brown	Fretwell	Macivor	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Brownbill	Urquhart	Moore
Feb 29	Lincoln City	0	-4	3,644	Brown	Macivor	Smart	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Urquhart	Brownbill
Mar 5	ALDERSHOT															
Mar 8	NEWPORT COUNTY															
Mar 10	Tranmere Rovers															
Mar 14	Torquay United															
Mar 18	Halifax Town															
Mar 22	TRANMERE															
Mar 26	PORT VALE															
Mar 29	Scunthorpe United															
Apr 4	Crewe Alexandra															
Apr 5	PETERBOROUGH															
Apr 7	Port Vale															
Apr 12	HALIFAX TOWN															
Apr 15	Hartlepool United															
Apr 19	Northampton Town															
Apr 26	WALSALL															
May 3	Aldershot															

Revised Lancashire Football Fixtures WIGAN ATHLETIC RESERVES

Mar. 7th	Tranmere R. Res.	A	To be arranged:
Mar. 14th	Manchester C. A'	H	Rochdale
Mar. 22nd	Manchester C. A'	A	Carlisle U. Res.
Mar. 29th	Bradford C. Res.	H	Carlisle U. Res.
Apr. 5th	Bolton W. A'	A	Port Vale Res.
Apr. 12th	Burnley A'	A	Maclesfield T. Res.
Apr. 19th	Wrexham Res.	H	Crewe Alex. A'
Apr. 26th	Port Vale Res.	A	
* May 3rd	Crewe Alex. 'A'	H	

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Fourth Division Focus

by Chris Gill



TED MACDOUGALL, a man with more than 250 Football League goals in the bank, has quit as a Bournemouth player to take over as Third Division Blackpool's player-coach. Old stalwart MacDougall isn't the only veteran on the move at the moment. Peterborough United's long-serving defender Jack Carmichael, who has made more than 600 appearances for the "Posh", is off to the North American League to play for the New England Tea Men. The fee is around £5,000.

Stockport County's Phil Henson finally left Edgeley Park but instead of going to Gigg Lane to play for Bury he was snapped up by County manager Jimmy McGuigan's former club Rotherham United for about £17,000—and scored two goals on his debut at the weekend.

Huddersfield Town's Brian Stanton filled a two year gap recently when he became the first "Town" player to bag a hat-trick during that time. The unlucky team were Stockport County who conceded five goals at Leeds Road.

Wolves have agreed to extend young John Black's loan period at Bradford City which is just as well for the Valley Paraders as Garry Watson is out for a month having twisted a kneecap while playing against Latics two weeks ago.

Halifax, shrugging off injuries, have another problem. Vernon Allat suffered an ankle injury against Hartlepool United and he too is out for a month having had the ankle put in plaster.

Torquay United goalkeeper John Turner has joined Third Division promotion hopefuls Chesterfield for £50,000. He made his debut against Wimbledon on Saturday.

Hartlepool United have opted to go for youth in a bid to boost their league position. Youngsters Phil Brown and Steve Vass both made their debut against Peterborough United at the weekend.

Lincoln City have a bargain in the form of goalkeeper Eric McManus, a player who cost Stoke City £80,000 a couple of months ago.

The Potters kindly loaned Lincoln City the 'keeper and he's been at Sincil Bank for nearly three months now.

Stockport County's Les Chapman has moved on into Yorkshire to play for Bradford City. He signed in a £10,000 deal in time to enable him to play against Portsmouth last Saturday.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION 4
TABLE AS AT 2nd MARCH, 1980

	Home						Away			A Pts	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A Pts
Walsall	34	10	7	0	32	13	9	6	2	25	16 51
Huddersfield Town	34	12	3	2	47	13	7	6	5	28	27 46
Portsmouth	34	13	3	2	54	20	5	5	6	18	19 44
Bradford City	33	10	5	2	33	11	7	3	6	26	21 42
Newport County	33	11	5	2	34	19	6	1	8	24	20 40
Peterborough United	34	9	2	5	21	17	6	6	6	15	16 38
Torquay United	31	11	3	1	34	12	2	7	7	17	29 36
Aldershot	32	9	4	4	21	14	5	3	7	18	19 35
Lincoln City	32	10	6	1	32	10	3	3	9	13	24 35
Northampton Town	33	12	2	2	27	12	1	6	10	13	39 34
Doncaster Rovers	33	8	4	5	31	23	3	6	7	19	24 32
Wigan Athletic	29	8	3	4	29	21	5	3	6	19	26 32
Bournemouth	34	6	6	5	22	18	3	8	6	17	20 32
Tranmere Rovers	32	8	1	6	26	17	4	6	7	15	23 31
Halifax Town	32	9	5	1	18	8	2	4	11	13	30 31
Hartlepool United	32	8	5	4	29	22	3	3	9	16	23 30
Stockport County	33	6	6	4	20	21	4	3	10	13	33 29
Port Vale	34	6	4	7	24	16	3	5	9	18	35 27
York City	34	7	5	6	30	26	2	4	10	21	38 27
Darlington	34	6	7	3	26	18	1	6	11	14	37 27
Hereford United	34	6	5	6	16	14	2	4	11	11	26 25
Scunthorpe United	31	8	6	2	27	16	1	1	13	9	41 25
Crewe Alexandra	34	6	5	6	17	21	0	3	14	6	36 20
Rochdale	32	4	5	5	15	19	1	4	13	13	45 19

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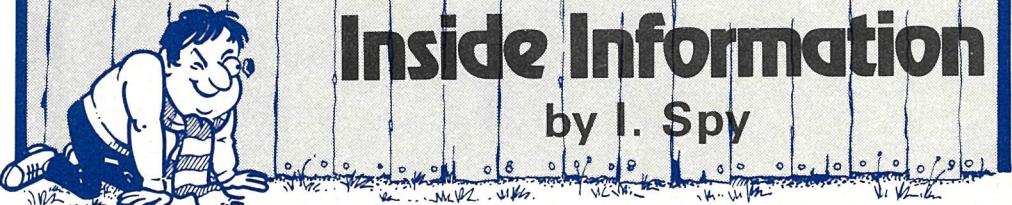
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Inside Information

by I. Spy

IF COUGHS and sneezes spread diseases, some inconsiderate carrier (or the weather) has been having a field day of late. One after another our hard-working ground staff have been laid low with a succession of chest, head and intestinal problems. We are pleased to report, however, that Walter, Jack, Bill, Ronnie, Tommy and Tony are now back in harness and our daily routine is all the brighter for their cheery smiles and light-hearted banter. Stick with it, chaps, Spring is just around the corner!

Friends of the club will be delighted to read that our Chairman's wife Margaret and their son Andrew are gradually recovering from a rather nasty road accident at Wrightington, last

weekend. The Chairman has asked us to pass on his sincere appreciation of the many messages of concern which have been received since the accident. In times of crisis Springfield Park's "family feeling" always makes itself apparent in the best possible way.

At the time of going to print, there is as yet no news of Derek Welsby's successor as Company Secretary, but negotiations are well advanced and an announcement can probably be anticipated in the near future.

John Curtis, Bob Ward and Noel Ward are now back in training, and, although the occasional limp can be detected, all three are in good spirits and battling their way back towards match-fitness.

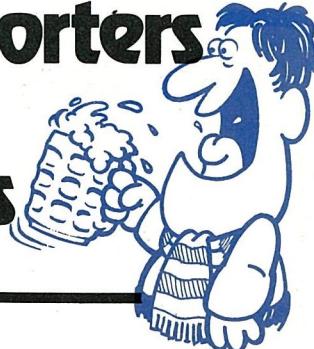
A VERY good evening to all football supporters and our best wishes to everyone for a good match and a pleasant evening.

The main topic in the club at the moment is the third round football quiz match to be played in the club at mid-day on Sunday next, 9th March. The date has been arranged to assist our opponents, Leeds United, with their travelling arrangements; and we understand that between 40 and 50 supporters will be travelling with the Leeds team. I would appeal to our supporters to come along and give **your** support to **our** great quiz team and I can assure you that you will enjoy the contest — Don't forget 12 o'clock next Sunday — No admission charge.

In past programme notes, I have referred to our appreciation of the work done by concert secretaries, which is of tremendous importance to the club's fortunes. Owing to circumstances, we at the "Latics" have been compelled to accept changes in this direction, but again I am happy to say that we have got yet another dedicated "Latics" chap and I am confident that we shall have no need for concern as far as artists are concerned.

Last Saturday evening, Keval Duo appeared on stage for their first-ever visit to

Supporters Club News



the club and gave a tremendous performance — yet another booking that we hope will be repeated.

This coming weekend, we have an artist who is coming with a king-sized reputation — James Dee (Saturday night) and on Sunday night, the welcome return of "Second Chance".

It was good news to hear Mrs. Sheila Prior, our Ladies' Darts and Dominoes Secretary, had returned home from hospital, and here's looking forward to seeing you "back on the board" soon, Sheila!!

Sincerely,
Peter Woods.



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A last word from the chairman . . .

ON BEHALF of the Wigan Athletic Football Club, I am delighted to welcome the Chairman, Directors, Staff and Supporters of the Aldershot Football Club to Springfield Park. Last year, in two closely-fought games, honours were even, with each side winning by the odd goal in front of its own spectators. With both Aldershot and Wigan anxious to make the "top-four", the game is of vital importance to both clubs and we are sure to witness a demanding ninety minutes of play. Let us hope that the positive, attractive football for which both teams are well-known will be much in evidence tonight.

It has been most frustrating in recent weeks to have games postponed when we have been looking to mount a positive challenge for promotion to the Third Division of the Football League. Games in hand look good on paper, but points in the bag are better, and the more games which have to be crammed into the end-of-season programme only make it that little more difficult for the players caught up in a fixture glut which allows no respite from the pressures imposed by key promotion and re-election fixtures. Let us hope that we have now seen the last of this year's interruptions, so that we can, very quickly, force our way back into the promotion reckoning. As I have said previously, the final stages of the season will really test the mettle of our team and your vocal support could be the vital factor as we strive to achieve our dream.

Enjoy tonight's game.

Sincerely,
A. O. Horrocks.



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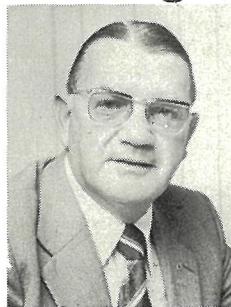
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Teams

**Wigan
Athletic**
Royal Blue
& White Stripes

John Brown	1	Glenn Johnson
Dave Fretwell	2	Nigel Edwards
Maurice Whittle	3	Alan Wooler
Tommy Gore	4	Will Dixon
Colin Methven	5	Tommy Youlden
Neil Davids	6	Paul Bennett
Frank Corrigan	7	Malcolm Crosby
Jeff Wright	8	Murray Brodie
Peter Houghton	9	Colin Garwood
Tony Quinn	10	Andy Needham
George Urquhart	11	Brian Lucas
	12	

Aldershot
Red & White

Officials

Referee:
Mr. A. Challinor
(Maltby)

Commenced refereeing in 1955 with the Rotherham League and then via Midland and Central Leagues to the Football League line in 1971 and later to the referees' list. Refereed Midland League Championship and Cup Final matches, and lined an International Youth Tournament match in 1976 and a Sixth Round F.A. Cup match the same year. Officiated in a UEFA Cup match in 1977.

Linesmen:
Red Flag
Mr. P. Hargreaves
(Blackburn)
Yellow Flag
Mr. D. Scott
(Burnley)

Here next...

Saturday, 8th March, 1980. Kick-off 3.00 p.m.
WIGAN ATHLETIC v NEWPORT COUNTY
Football League Division Four